

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Canceled).
2. (Allowed) A method of operating a computer system on which an application is installed, said method comprising the steps of:

verifying whether a predetermined run authorization for the application is present, and

in the absence of said predetermined run authorization, decreasing the speed of execution of the application on the computer system as compared to the speed of execution of the application in the presence of the predetermined run authorization,

wherein a rate of the decrease in the speed of execution is increased with time.
- 3-7. (Canceled).
8. (Allowed) The method as claimed in Claim 2, wherein code, in particular code of the application, is executed in order to decrease the speed of execution.
- 9-16. (Canceled).
17. (Allowed) A computer system comprising:

an installed application, and

a means of verification which verifies whether a predetermined run authorization for the application is present, and, if said predetermined run authorization is not present, causes the speed of execution of the application on the computer system to be lower than the speed of execution of the application in the presence of the predetermined run authorization

wherein a rate of a decrease in the lower speed of execution is increased with time.

18-19. (Canceled).

20. (Allowed) A computer program product, comprising software code, by which the steps of the method according to Claim 2 are executed once the product is running on a computer system.

21. (New) The method as claimed in Claim 2, wherein a resource provided to the application by the computer system is made scarce in order to decrease the speed of execution.

22. (New) The method as claimed in Claim 2, wherein the bandwidth at which the application communicates with at least one of a software module and a hardware module of the computer system is reduced in order to decrease the speed of execution.

23. (New) The method as claimed in Claim 2, wherein the verification step is repeated in order to decrease the speed of execution.

24. (New) The method as claimed in Claim 2, wherein the verification step is repeated and executed more slowly in order to decrease the speed of execution.

25. (New) The method as claimed in Claim 2, wherein the computing power of the computer system is reduced in order to decrease the speed of execution.
26. (New) The method as claimed in Claim 2, wherein the system performance required by the application during execution is increased in order to decrease the speed of execution.
27. (New) The method as claimed in Claim 2, wherein execution of the application is temporarily interrupted in order to decrease the speed of execution.
28. (New) The method as claimed in Claim 2, wherein a user interface of the application is displayed on an output unit of the computer system and, in addition to the decrease in the speed of execution, the readability of the user interface is deteriorated.
29. (New) The method as claimed in Claim 28, wherein said deterioration in readability is increased with time.
30. (New) The computer system as claimed in Claim 17, wherein the means of verification, if said predetermined run authorization is not present, additionally causes the readability of a user interface of the application displayed on an output unit of the computer system to deteriorate as compared to the readability of the displayed user interface in the presence of the predetermined run authorization.

31. (New) A method of operating a computer system on which an application is installed, said method comprising the steps of:

displaying a user interface of the application on an output unit of the computer system,
verifying whether a predetermined run authorization for the application is present, and,
in the absence of said predetermined run authorization, deteriorating the readability of said displayed user interface as compared to the user interface displayed in the presence of the predetermined run authorization,

wherein a rate deterioration of the readability of said displayed user interface is increased with time.

32. (New) The method as claimed in Claim 31, wherein at least one of the contrast of the displayed user interface and the brightness of the displayed user interface is decreased in order to reduce readability.

33. (New) The method as claimed in Claim 31, wherein the transparency of the displayed user interface is increased in order to reduce readability.

34. (New) The method as claimed in Claim 32, wherein the transparency of the displayed user interface is increased in order to reduce readability.

35. (New) A computer system comprising an installed application and a means of verification, which verifies whether a predetermined run authorization for the application is present, and, if said predetermined run authorization is not present, causes the readability of a

user interface of the application displayed on an output unit of the computer system to deteriorate as compared to the readability of the displayed user interface in the presence of the predetermined run authorization, wherein a rate of deterioration of the readability of the user interface is increased with time.

New Number	Original Number
2	2
8	8
17	17
20	20
21	3
22	4
23	5
24	6
25	7
26	9
27	10
28	11
29	12
30	19
31	13
32	14
33	15
34	16
35	18